

**MINUTES OF THE
UTAH INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**
Thursday, October 22, 2009 1:45 p.m. – Room 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair
Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Kerry W. Gibson
Rep. Phil Riesen
Mr. Miguel R. Rovira

Members Absent:

Rep. Eric K. Hutchings
Mr. Brian Farr
Mr. Brett W. Heimbürger

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy L. Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Commission Business

Chair Allen called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. Goodfellow moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Madsen was absent for the vote.

2. Utah Exporter of the Month

This item was not addressed.

3. Utah Exporter / Importer Database

Mr. Craig Peterson, International Trade Office, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), explained GOED's contract with the World Trade Center (WTC). The contract is to establish an economic development database of all Utah export companies for the purpose of promoting international trade. He said GOED will be able to map where Utah companies are doing business in the world. He distributed a graph showing the state's export activity through August.

Ms. Shiela Steiner, World Trade Center Utah, described the database in more detail. She stated the main challenge is to get the right people from Utah at events where they can meet and connect with exporters from other countries.

Ms. Elizabeth Gordova, Salt Lake Chamber International Relations, reviewed the Chamber's upcoming calendar events and invited committee members to attend and participate in those activities. She gave a quick briefing regarding the Chamber's trip to China.

MOTION: Sen. Knudson moved that all committee members be included on the Salt Lake Chamber International Relations email list for notification of events sponsored by the Chamber. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Madsen was absent for the vote.

4. Latin America Trade Pact Update

Mr. Miguel Rovira, Regional Asian Director, International Trade Diplomacy Office, GOED, distributed handouts and gave a slide presentation titled "Regional Update on the Americas." He reviewed export growth for North and South America, top growth countries, exports year-to-date, trade agreements in various countries, and the outlook for 2010.

5. Governor's International Language Road Map Report

Mr. Greg Roberts, World Language Specialist, State Office of Education, reported on the governor's initiative to develop an international language database. He distributed "Utah Language Roadmap for the 21st Century," an aggressive language education plan that will prepare generations of Utah students to enter a changing global economy. He recommended that the state consider a change in education policy to require the study of foreign languages as a requirement for graduation and for college entrance. He identified the key business languages in the world as English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian, and Chinese. He encouraged continued support of early language learning programs.

6. Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) Trade Plans

Mr. Spencer Eccles, Director, GOED, reported on changes and related trade initiatives in the Governor's Office of Economic Development since his recent appointment. He said that pinpointing what makes Utah companies good business partners will make it easier for Utah businesses to trade internationally. He expressed his support for early language programs. Mr. Eccles reviewed GOED's areas of focus in an effort to help create a positive business climate for innovation and entrepreneurship in Utah.

Chair Allen invited Mr. Eccles to be partners with the Legislature and give input where the Legislature can help in fostering international trade.

7. Asian Trade Pact Update

This item was not discussed.

8. Trade Issue Discussion: Packet Information

Mr. North reported on the April 1, 2009 meeting of the Working Party of Domestic Regulation. He referred to a handout previously distributed to the Committee. Committee discussion followed.

9. Other Items / Adjourn

The next meeting was scheduled for November 19, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Knudson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Madsen, Rep. Biskupski, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Riesen were absent for the vote.

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.